(c) and (d) As per the large sample surveys of the household consumption expenditure conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation, the *per capita* consumption expenditure in urban areas has been higher than in rural areas by an almost constant 60% in 1987-88 and 1993-94.

Transfer of funds from Non-lapsable Central Pool

1653. DR. (SHRIMATI) JOYASHREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether any decision has been taken to transfer funds from the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources to the beneficiary State as 100 per cent grants as requested by Government of Assam instead of 90 per cent grant and 10 per cent loan as at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): A decision in this regard is yet to be taken.

Non utilisation of plan budget on NER by Ministries/Departments

1654. DR. (SHRIMATI) JOYASREE GOSWAMI MAHANTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whethr it is a fact that some Ministries/Departments are not spending stipulated 10 percent of their plan budget on North-East and are also not transferring the unspent balance to the non-lapsable central pool of resources, although they are required to do so;

(b) if so, which are those Departments and Ministries;

(c) whether any action will be taken against the defaulting departments; and

(d) what is the amount that have not been transferred to the nonlapsable central pool resources during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 Ministry/Department-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE